

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, today I introduce a resolution honoring the Whidbey 24, the brave crewmembers of an EP-3 aircraft stationed at Whidbey Island Naval Air Station in my home State of Washington.

On April 1, 2001, a United States EP-3 surveillance aircraft on routine patrol in international airspace over the South China Sea collided with a Chinese fighter jet. The plane carried a crew of 22 Navy personnel, one Air Force officer, and one Marine. Following the accident, the U.S. aircraft and crew plunged as much as 8,000 feet before the crew regained control of the severely damaged aircraft. Navy Lieutenant Shane Osborne, the pilot, and his entire crew displayed extraordinary skill and courage as the aircraft made an emergency landing at the Chinese military airfield on Hainan Island. The 24 crew members were detained on Hainan Island in the People's Republic of China for 11 days as the United States and China negotiated a diplomatic resolution to the aircraft collision and the emergency landing.

When I first heard that an American plane was forced to make an emergency landing in China, like all Americans, I was very concerned. Then I learned that the crew was based on Whidbey Island, and I realized that these men and women were my neighbors—the people I see at the grocery store. The city of Oak Harbor, which is home to the Whidbey Island Naval Air Station, was immensely supportive of the airmen and their families during this incident. The community commenced a “Bring Back VQ-1” campaign to show their support and deep appreciation for the crewmembers and their families. Residents of the city wrapped trees and light poles with yellow ribbons. My Washington, D.C. office distributed yellow ribbons to visitors and other Senate offices in an effort to demonstrate our support in the halls of Congress.

On April 14, 2001, the crew returned safely to Washington State to an emotional “Welcome Home VQ-1” celebration at the Ault Field Hangar at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island. These brave men and women displayed uncommon courage, professionalism, and selfless dedication to duty in the service of our country, from the time of the collision and throughout their 11-day detention. While my resolution seeks to recognize the Whidbey 24, it is equally important to note that thousands of Americans serve just as honorably in service to our country each and every day.

I am so proud of the Whidbey Island community for it handled this incident with great compassion for the families and NAS Whidbey personnel. But we also know that all across America, military families and the American people were standing behind our military personnel. The Whidbey Island

community stood tall, proud and patriotic on behalf of the families and the country.

I ask the Senate to join me in recognizing the bravery and determination of the Whidbey 24 throughout a delicate and dangerous ordeal. On behalf of all Americans, I proudly honor them and once again welcome them home.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 35—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT LEBANON, SYRIA, AND IRAN SHOULD ALLOW REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS TO VISIT THE FOUR ISRAELIS, ADI AVITAN, BINYAMIN AVRAHAM, OMAR SOUAD, AND ELCHANAN TANNENBAUM, PRESENTLY HELD BY HEZBOLLAH FORCES IN LEBANON

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BAYH, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. SPECTER, and Mrs. CLINTON) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 35

Whereas on October 7, 2000, Hezbollah units, in clear violation of international law, crossed Lebanon's international border and kidnapped three Israeli soldiers, Adi Avitan, Binyamin Avraham, and Omar Souad;

Whereas on October 15, 2000, Hezbollah announced that it had abducted a fourth Israeli, Elchanan Tannenbaum;

Whereas these captives are being held by Hezbollah in Lebanon;

Whereas the 2000 Department of State report on foreign terrorist organizations stated that Hezbollah receives substantial amounts of financial assistance, training, weapons, explosives, and political, diplomatic, and organizational assistance from Iran and Syria;

Whereas Syria, Lebanon, and Iran voted in favor of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the United Nations General Assembly;

Whereas the International Committee of the Red Cross has made numerous attempts to gain access to assess the condition of these prisoners; and

Whereas the International Committee of the Red Cross has been denied access to these prisoners: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that Lebanon, Syria, and Iran should allow representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross to visit the four Israelis, Adi Avitan, Binyamin Avraham, Omar Souad, and Elchanan Tannenbaum, presently held by Hezbollah forces in Lebanon.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 357. Mr. DAYTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, to extend programs and activities under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 357. Mr. DAYTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, to extend programs and activities under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 521, between lines 18 and 19, insert the following:

SEC. 405. AMENDMENT TO THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT.

Section 611(j) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1411(j)) is amended to read as follows:

“(j) **MANDATORY FUNDING.**—For the purpose of carrying out this part, other than section 619, there are authorized to be appropriated, and there are appropriated in addition to amounts made available in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2001—

“(1) \$12,103,000,000 for fiscal year 2002; and
“(2) not more than \$18,165,000,000 or the sum of the maximum amount that all States may receive under subsection (a)(2), whichever is lower, for fiscal year 2003.”.

NOTICE OF HEARING

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION, AND RECREATION

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that an oversight hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The purpose of this oversight hearing is to receive testimony on the U.S. Department of Interior Fiscal Year 2002 Budget Justification for the National Park Service.

The hearing will take place on Thursday, May 10, 2001, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, SD-354, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Jim O'Toole or Shane Perkins of the Committee staff at (202) 224-1219.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet on Wednesday, May 2, at 9:30 a.m., in order to receive testimony regarding the science of global climate change and issues related to reducing net greenhouse gas emissions.